GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:268
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2006
NON-OPERATIONAL AIRCRAFT
Chatterjee Shri Santasri

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

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(a) Whether a substantive number of Aircraft belonging to Indian Airlines, remained non-operational during January to October,2006;

(b) If so, the details and the reasons therefor; and

(c) The steps taken/proposed to be taken to make these aircraft operational ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a)and (b): Out of a fleet of 74 aircraft available with Indian Airlines and Alliance Air, 16 aircraft remained grounded for different periods during January, 2006 and October, 2006. Further, out of a fleet of 48 A-320 aircraft, normally 6 remain grounded for scheduled major maintenance at any given point of time. As against this, 10 A-320 aircraft are presently grounded for major maintenance/want of engines as also for scheduled maintenance.

(c): Since the grounding of aircraft was primarily due to shortage of engines, Indian Airlines Limited is vigorously pursuing all possible means to increase engine availability through augmenting production of engines in its Jet Engine Overhaul Centre,outsourcing of engine overhaul and continued retention of 3 short-term leased engines till January/February, 2007.